



Gordon wins NNSA Safety Professional of the Year award

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LOS ALAMOS, New Mexico, March 12, 2009—Laboratory Chief Electrical Safety Officer Lloyd Gordon received the 2008 National Nuclear Security Administration Management & Operating Contractor Safety Professional of the Year award.

Gordon displayed outstanding leadership in electrical safety, both at the Laboratory and across the Department of Energy, said Tom D'Agostino, NNSA administrator.

He is a primary author of the Electrical Severity Measurement Tool, which is now used across the complex to categorize and report electrical incidents. Gordon also provided leadership and technical guidance to nearly 150 group and division electrical safety officers and developed and delivered training to thousands of Lab workers. Gordon served as chair of the 30-member Energy Facility Contractors Group's Electrical Safety Subgroup in 2008 and has chaired or co-chaired EFCOG/DOE Electrical Safety workshops for the past five years.

Gordon's contributions have helped NNSA and DOE as a whole develop better tools, gain better insight into how to solve longstanding problems, and drive improvements across the complex, D'Agostino said.

"The Safety Professional of the Year Award highlights Lloyd's significant achievements in electrical safety at the Laboratory and across the DOE complex," said Industrial Hygiene and Safety manager Theresa Cull. "I am very pleased that NNSA has recognized Lloyd's accomplishments and that he is the first M&O contractor to receive this award."

"I'm pleased that a researcher can make such an impact and serve the complex in safety," said Gordon, who previously won the Laboratory's 2006 Distinguished Performance Award. "My goal at the Laboratory over my 10 years in electrical safety research and development has been to change the culture of safety among my R&D colleagues, set an example for how safety can be efficiently integrated into the research field, and to provide resources for all researchers in electrical safety."

Gordon, an experimental researcher with a background in pulsed power engineering and plasma physics, holds a doctorate in electrical engineering from Texas Tech University, Lubbock. During the first 15 years of his career, he conducted and supervised research for DOE, the Defense Nuclear Agency, NASA, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Auburn University, and the University of Texas, Arlington.

Gordon said that it was during that period he became increasingly interested in electrical safety. "I saw the urgent need for improvement in electrical safety in government and university research laboratories," he said. "From 1987 to the early 1990s, I developed innovative electrical safety training for researchers for LLNL, the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, and Sandia National Laboratory.

The NNSA award recognizes distinguished service and outstanding achievements and contributions that are clearly and demonstrably greater than normally would be expected in performing assigned duties. This is the fourth year that NNSA has recognized one of its federal safety professionals and the first year that it has recognized an M&O contractor safety professional.

Los Alamos National Laboratory

www.lanl.gov

(505) 667-7000

Los Alamos, NM

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